

THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH HASTINGS MINING NEWS.

No. 433.

MADOC, (HASTINGS CO., ONT.), SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1871.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

The Civil War in France.

The civil war which broke out almost immediately after the departure of the Germans, still continues around Paris, no very material change having taken place in the state of affairs during the last three weeks. The National Assembly army of Versailles has kept on bombarding the forts and parts of the city, causing much destruction of life and property, but without reducing the Communists and the inhabitants generally to submission. The threatened intervention of the Germans between the belligerents has not yet taken place; and until it does, unless the supply of ammunition in Paris runs gives out, the struggle between the capital and the provinces for political power may be indefinitely prolonged.

FRANKFORT ON THE MAINE, May 6.—Prince Bismarck, attended by Herr Von Arnim, had two interviews to-day with MM. Favre and Poyner-Quetier. Poyner-Quetier declared that the payment of war contributions in accordance with the preliminary treaty of peace was impossible at the present time, owing to the civil war in France. He asked for concessions from Germany, offering as an equivalent for a prolongation of time a commercial treaty and an advantageous arrangement concerning the Eastern railway. Favre asked for the possession of forts Charenton, Nogent, Rosny, and Noisy, on the eastern side of Paris, for the Versailles forces. He also asked for the return of arms and ammunition captured from the French by the Germans during the recent war and the prompt return of prisoners of war now in Germany. In response, Bismarck insisted on the strict and immediate compliance by the French authorities with the preliminary terms of the Peace Convention. He suggested that loans could be obtained from the English, French, and German banks; and stated that a further protraction of delay in carrying out the terms of the treaty would entail serious consequences upon the Versailles Government.

At noon Bismarck had a conference with Baron Rothschild. He will remain in Frankfort till Monday next.

A World's special from Versailles of the 7th says: Bismarck has brought great pressure upon Thiers to hasten the reduction of Paris. This week must end the conflict one way or the other. The Germans will hold aloof for a few days more, but will not wait beyond Sunday next.

VERSAILLES, May 7.—The official journal of Versailles, referring to the proposed congress of municipal councils at Bordeaux, says the Government would betray France, the Assembly and civilization, if it permitted the Communist rebellion to exist side by side with the regular Government.

A special from Paris says that on Saturday the Versailles made a general reconnaissance, but were repulsed by the Communists with great loss.

A club held in the church of St. Nicholas in the Champs Elysees last night, M. Perrin proposed that the Commune summon the Versailles to liberate Blanqui within 24 hours, on pain of putting the Archbishop of Paris to death in case of refusal. The proposition was carried by acclamation.

A great meeting of men over 50 years of age took place in the Place Bastille. Five thousand were present and marched to the Louvre and demanded arms. They say they want to show the young men how to fight. Arms were promised them.

The dispatches say Kitchener announces that ammunition is running short.

VERSAILLES, May 8th.—President Thiers has just issued a proclamation addressed to the people of Paris, in which he says the Government will not bombard the city, but will make an assault upon the experts. He requests the citizens to rally around the troops, and promises in return for their aid the granting of an amnesty and the continuance of a subsidy to the poor. He says the Germans declare they will mercilessly resume the war unless the intervention is at once suppressed. The proclamation

close as follows:—"Reunite and open the gates to us: the work of the cannon will then cease, and tranquillity and abundance will take its place. We are marching to deliver you and will be among you in a few days. You can aid us."

BERLIN, May 8.—It is stated, upon what is considered to be official authority, that enlistments of men for the support of the cause of Napoleon in France are being made in America.

LONDON, May 8.—Bismarck is inclined to give up the forts, but insists on the strict payment of the war indemnity, for the purpose of which he suggests that loans be raised by the French Government. The main points of a treaty of peace have been agreed on between Bismarck and Favre.

A rumour comes from Brussels that a formal treaty of peace has been signed at Frankfurt. Bismarck has not yet returned to Berlin, but is expected there to-morrow.

It is again rumoured that the Emperor Napoleon has gone to France secretly, relying upon the disaffection in the army for support in an attempt to regain the throne.

The Kingston British Whig, in a recent issue, says:—"We were to judge from the New York papers, particularly from those of the stamp of the *World* and *Sun*, we should say that a fearful state of Red Republicanism exists in London, to an extent little dreamed of in this quiet community. But some of the United States newspapers take a pride in debating everything British, and doubtless these Red reports are shamefully exaggerated. But London is not England, and were they true, or in a measure true, they would not have much effect on the English mind, which is both Conservative and Monarchical. The simple truth is, the application to Parliament for a provision for the Princess Louise, coupled with the insurrectionary action in Paris of the Communists, has emboldened the Discontents of the British metropolis, always numerous, to strike for democratic terms now, which although unattainable may yet furnish matter at another time for a successful attainment. And another simple truth is, that Queen Victoria is not so popular at home as she was, or as she deserves to be. This affair of the endowment of the Princess has stirred up an inquiry into the Revenue of Her Majesty, and what she does with the princely income of £350,000 per annum. She does not spend that amount, and therefore must hoard it; and the inference is, that she might have dowered the Princess herself."

In its "Notes," the same paper says:—"The London correspondents show something of the tremendous stride the democratic sentiment is making in England. The recent meeting of the London 'Reds' in Hyde Park to express sympathy with the cause of the Paris Communists is fully reported. The journals are beginning to drop their indifferent, half-sneering tone towards the people who meet on Sunday in Hyde Park and 'howl' for a republic. They admit that a serious danger to the monarchy is beginning to make its appearance. England is full of this political unrest."

The *Pall Mall Gazette* says:—"The truth cannot be denied that, under the peculiar proprietary system of England and Scotland, there is growing up a feeling on the subject of property in land which is not only attracting many theorists who have no natural affinity for it, but great numbers of practical men who might be supposed to have the strongest repugnance for it. Mr. Mills admits that an active and influential portion of the working classes who have adopted the opinion that private property in land is a mistake, look with jealousy on any relaxation of the land monopoly. They think that 'any increase of the number of landed proprietors would strengthen the obstacles to a general resumption of the land.' We agree with them entirely and unreservedly on the last point, and we think their opinion that the present distribution of landed property increases the chances of general confiscation very far from irrational. The power of the landed aristocracy is far more nominal than real."—*Pall Mall Gazette*.

"GOING, GOING, —" The Gladstone Government even after striking out the most obnoxious parts of the budget, were able to command only a majority of 46 upon the final division. The vote is a sign of the waning popularity of the administration. Gladstone, backed by Mr. John Bright, came to power upon the wave of popular applause. Determined to prove the reforming character of his Government he cut down the army, reduced the navy of the empire, turned hundreds upon hundreds of dockyard hands, who had earned a living in government employ ever since they were able to work out upon the streets, and did many other equal "economical" acts, which it was foolishly hoped would bring all England to the side of the Government. But England does not relish that sort of "economy" which, in the presence of an upheaval of society, the continent might lead to trouble at home. The Government has been forced into retreating many of its steps in the way of what it called "reform" and with each such step back to the old position it has lost more or less of its majority. It had no difficulty in obtaining majorities ranging from 125 to 225 in the earlier days of its existence. It has now crept, in a tolerably full house, by the beggarly majority of 46. Evidently its end is rapidly drawing near; and we misinterpret English opinion grossly if the day of its demise will not be hailed with very general rejoicing.—*Leader*.

The New Anglo-American Treaty.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8.—The treaty was signed to-day by the Joint High Commission at the Department of State. The gentlemen, after this was done, exchanged congratulations on the result of their labours, expressing their belief that they had done the most they possibly could for the peace and honour of the two countries.

Although an agreement has been made between the Commissioners that the treaty shall not be made public until ratifications have been exchanged, and the Commissioners are admitted to have been cautious in talking to persons outside of their own circle, Washington correspondents nevertheless profess to be able to give correct information about the principal points of the treaty, as follows:—"There are to be two boards of arbitration or commissions: to one will be referred the Alabama and other similar claims—to the other, miscellaneous claims, British and American, confined principally to periods from the commencement to the close of the late civil war. Among these are the St. Albans claims for damage to property in that town by 'Canadians' (?), but no claims for the Fenian invasion of Canada are to be admitted!—The San Juan question will be referred to the arbitration of a friendly sovereign, probably the Emperor of Brazil. From the character of the documents accompanying the treaty, it is inferred that the decision cannot fail to be in favour of the United States. The treaty provides for the free navigation of the St. Lawrence by the vessels of the United States, and for the use of the Canadian canal on the payment of the regular tolls. There are also provisions regulating the privileges to fish in Canadian waters, but these have not been ascertained with sufficient accuracy to justify a statement of them."

TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.—*Sing-Sing, N. Y.*, May 6.—At noon yesterday, a terrible accident in the Sing Sing prison imperilled the lives of 89 convicts. The men were marching to the mess room for dinner and while they were crossing over the gallery floor the structure gave way, precipitating several of the men to the pavement, forty feet beneath. Others dropped to the gallery below, sustaining severe injuries. A scene of wild excitement ensued, during which numerous attempts to escape were made by the prisoners. The prison officials acted promptly and coolly, however, and in a short time extracted the victims from the debris. The cause of the accident was the breaking of one of the iron braces which supported the gallery. It is feared that two of the men are fatally injured.

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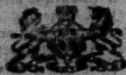
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All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc.



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MADOC, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1871.

TO EXCHANGERS.—Our big brethren of the Press, who may intend to continue to exchange, are requested to send to Madoc as usual for the next fortnight, and after that to direct to the *Mercury*, Renfrew, Ont., where it will reappear in an enlarged form.

VALEDICTORY.

With the present number, the Publication of the *MADOC MERCURY*, which has been continued for a period of eight years and a half, will be finally closed.

It making this announcement, it need scarcely be said that it is with very considerable reluctance the Editor is about to sever the connection which has existed for so long a time between his readers and himself. The natural regret with which such a decision has been come to, is, however, to a very great extent compensated for by the assurances of many of his best and oldest friends,—among whom he has lived for upwards of ten years,—that they are quite as sorry to part with him and the *Mercury*, as he can possibly be at leaving them and the place which has been so long his home.

To such of his friends as he has not previously conveyed any intimation of the impending change—and to the public generally—the Editor would say that the step has not been taken without mature deliberation. He has not been driven to it by any falling off in his business, for that of the past year was quite up to the average of former ones. But the cost and labour of getting up a newspaper in so small a place as this village is, are altogether out of proportion to the returns: especially as there is no direct communication—nor the prospect of it—with some of the adjoining Townships—which can accordingly be more easily accommodated from Belleville both for printing and advertising. Consultation on the point with business men has convinced him that there is no sufficient inducement at the present time to enlarge the *Mercury*: and he has therefore come to the conclusion that the advice he received long ago, that it was a waste of time and money and experience for him to remain here, was correct.

The *MERCURY* was commenced in the expectation that the Village of Madoc would, at no distant time, become the County Seat of North Hastings; and that the valuable iron ore beds in the vicinity would again be worked, and make the village the centre of a large and busy population. Then the discovery of Gold gave a temporary prosperity to the place. In the opinion of some, the paper ought immediately to have been enlarged; but it must be admitted that would have proved the Editor's judgement was more correct on that point than that of his critics and of the speculators who failed to make a fool of him. In saying this, it must be understood that he does not mean to say that there were or are no genuine gold-mining enterprises in this district, which may

ultimately prove highly remunerative; but simply that even should they do so, it would be but of little benefit to a local newspaper. Later on, the prospect of a Railway to Kingston, once more gave encouragement to wait a little longer. None of these expectations have been fulfilled; and the fact that the village population has not increased in a dozen years served to give the finishing touch to the conviction that the time had come to make a new move.

It is possible that the Editor may be as much mistaken in his present views as he was in his former expectations: and that those residents who say that the Gold-mining interest is about to undergo a revival and bring an era of hitherto unexperienced prosperity to the place, may be quite correct in their speculations. He trusts that it may prove to be so: and that those who look to future advancement from the County Town, Railway, and Iron prospects, may find the time to wait for the realization of their hopes less distant than he now anticipates. Most certainly, even if he makes the mistake of leaving Madoc just as it is about to flourish, he will rejoice to hear that those who remain have good cause to be thankful. And with the wish that it may so turn out, he now bids his friends and neighbours, so far as the *MADOC MERCURY* is concerned—Farewell!

While thanking our friends generally for the constant support they have given us—and for numerous offers to double the subscription if we will only stop here,—we desire particularly to acknowledge our obligations to Mr C. G. Wilson, who, from the commencement, has accommodated our village subscribers by the delivery of the paper at his drug store.

As we have not hitherto "dunned" any of our subscribers or customers for money due, we hope that those who now receive their accounts will pay up promptly. Several have already called to settle, without waiting to hear from us; and others have asked for their bills. The amounts outstanding, though separately small, make in the aggregate a sum that would be useful at the present time.

New subscribers and others who have recently paid in advance, will have the balance of their subscriptions returned.

In the course of the trip we took during our recent absence from Madoc, we had occasion to pass over the Brockville and Ottawa Railway. Naturally, we kept our eyes open to see what sort of a country that line passes through: and, after seeing it, the conclusion was unavoidable, that the people of this city of Kingston never made a greater mistake than when they dropped the railroad through Madoc to the Georgian Bay, by allowing the charter to expire,—as we fully believe it has expired, in consequence of no steps having been taken to make a commencement of the work. For really we do not think the land, on the average, can be pronounced much superior to that which would be found on the route between Kingston and Madoc. It may be somewhat less rolling: but it would require pretty accurate measurement to decide whether there is less stone still on the surface or in the corners of the fences than may be seen hereabouts. And that being the case,—then, judging from the character of the land to the north-east of Madoc,—we think it probable enough that half-way between Kingston and Pembroke, a good deal more of that sort will be found, when the route of the new favourite line comes to be surveyed—as it has not yet been: and that, in fact, it will turn out that a line to the Georgian Bay could have been built for a good deal less than that can be to Pembroke—before it is completed.—Time may solve the mystery as to the cause that led to the abandonment of the Madoc scheme: and may even yet prove it is the more practicable of the two.

The opening of the branch from Carleton Place to Ottawa, seems to have given a great impetus to the progress of the village. A number of new small houses have already been erected, and more are expected to go up this summer. The shops that line running east and west, as the Madoc road would have done, are wasted to open up the back country fairly, quite as much as lines running north and south.

It has been the fashion to talk of the eastern part of Ontario as utterly a standstill. We think, however, that the next census will show Brockville has increased in population, quite as much, if not more, in proportion than Belleville, within the last ten years: and that the same is beginning to be the case with the villages in that part of the country.

Before returning home, we took a ramble to Iron

ton. There we paid a visit to the Messrs. Gillmore extensive saw-mill. It was not at work at the time; some alterations being made in the steam motive power. The boilers have been increased in number from six to nine, and are being fitted up with an apparatus for supplying the fire-boxes with saw dust for fuel. As this mill alone cuts, we understand, something in the neighbourhood of twenty million feet of lumber in the course of the year, and there are several other extensive establishments at Belleville and other points, the lumbering interest on the Bay of Quinte, though less talked of than that of the Ottawa, would, probably, on comparison, be found of much more nearly equal importance than is generally supposed.

The Madoc Cheese Factory.

The most important local event which has occurred since our last issue appeared, has been the opening of the Madoc Cheese Factory, where operations were commenced on the 28th of April, with the milk of about 160 cows. The supply at present furnished is from 250 out of the 400 cows owned by 30 shareholders. The average make of cheese is now 600 pounds per day; and by to-day (Saturday), 75 cheeses, averaging 65 lbs. each—or about 5,000 lbs. altogether—will have been manufactured, and will be ready for market by the 1st of June.

There are 15 presses in the factory, affording capacity for double the present rate of manufacture.

The total cost of the Factory buildings, with the necessary outfit, amounts to something less than \$2,000.

The furnishings were supplied by Mr C. F. Smith, of Belleville, and comprise all the latest and most economical improvements.

The Company have been fortunate in securing the services of Mr Tanner, formerly of the Halloway Cheese Factory, whose reputation as a cheese-maker has already led to the receipt of an order for the Madoc cheese for the English market.

Hon. Lewis Wallbridge, in recognition of the benefit which the factory will be likely to confer on the neighbourhood, has presented to Mr Aylsworth, as President of the Company, a fine bull calf—a cross between the Durham and Ayrshire breeds—for the improvement of stock in this part of North Hastings.

The Old Ploughshare.

The ploughshare that turned the first furrow in Madoc was recently placed in the possession of Mr Wareham Tuller. It was brought from Belleville, on his back, by Mr Miles Riggs, and commenced its arduous duties in 1827, on lot 7, concession 8.

This antique relic of the primitive days of Madoc possesses only local interest: consequently, upon leaving this township for a far-off home on the prairies of Kansas, it was given by Mr Lewis Riggs to Mr Tuller.

The Riggs were among the earliest inhabitants of Madoc, hence the hardships they endured were none of the least.

Their well-known kindness and hospitality to their fellow-settlers will be long remembered.

Though quite numerous in the township once, at present not one of the name is with us; yet, having left a good reputation and influence, it will be long, before, if ever, they are quite forgotten.—Com.

We are sorry that owing to this being the last appearance of the *MERCURY*, we have neither time nor space for another ray communication from our "oldest inhabitant," THOMAS BAILEY, Esq., J.P., in his own quaint and forcible language, be desired to call the attention of all, and especially of the farmers, to the numerous evil effects arising from the abuse of the privilege of "having a vote," from the too great frequency with which many men nowadays sell their votes for the sake of some paltry profit. We wished to point out, that when scheming politicians meet together, they say to one another—

"There are plenty of fools."

To make them our tools."

If we only throw dust in their eyes."

and that, to thus make fools of the people, their members are profuse in a vain display of words, in order to gull the ignorant, of whom they say, "each of my supporters shall be a stepping-stone for me to step upon, to walk into Parliament so handy, as you know."

If Mr Bailey were a younger man, we should advise him to tell his own story in his own words in